

## GERMANY HAS WOE

Things Not Lovely in the Country of the Rhine.

### FOREIGNERS ARE EXPELLED

Condition of the Laboring Class of Berlin.

Berlin, Nov. 21.—More than the emperor's return from the orient, more than the convening of the newly elected reichstag, the wholesale expulsions in various provinces of Prussia engross public attention these days. When it is considered that over half a million of persons of foreign birth reside in Prussia, and that the expulsions hitherto reported were ordered for the most part, for a variety of reasons, and in many cases for no visible reason at all, that among these men and women of foreign birth there are many who occupy leading positions in different walks of life, and for that, for instance, an unusually large percentage of them are employed on the Prussian press, many in a prominent way, the unrest will be understood which has seized upon German public opinion in regard to the matter. Even the government press is made up in a large part by editors who are really "Aussiedler," such as Lauer, the chief editor of the Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, the most influential governmental sheet; Mantel, the leading man on the official telegraph bureau, etc., etc., and a score of others.

The question among them all has become: What is the meaning of these expulsions? Are they to be a part of the new government system, and are they intended to hit only "obnoxious foreigners," or are other reasons potent? And the answers, too, differ greatly. Thus, it is quite certain that the provincial governor of Schleswig-Holstein, the former very reactionary Prussian minister of the interior, von Koeler, has expelled for the most part men and women and children of Danish birth, for no other admitted reason than that they were in the employ of native Schleswigers who belong to the "Danish sympathizers," to the protesters, to men of Danish blood still hoping for the reunion of Schleswig, at least northern Schleswig, with little Denmark. In the Prussian provinces adjoining Holland, where wholesale expulsions are likewise being effected, the reasons given are different again, but in the majority of cases the fact that among the Hollanders residing in those districts there are many who refuse to become Prussians and bear arms in the Prussian army, is held accountable.

There are, it is true, towns and villages in those frontier districts where the circumstances are peculiar. In the city of Gronau, for example, about half the population is of Dutch birth, and intermarriages in the population have still further complicated matters, so that of the male members of one and the same family it often happens that half of them, of Dutch birth, need not serve in the German army, while the other half, having married Dutch girls, but being themselves of Prussian birth, have to do so. Naturally, the Dutch part of the population there, not losing time in the German army, gets along better in a financial and business way than the other half which has to serve two or three years actively, and a number of years in the reserve, with annual maneuvers taking them away for another six weeks. Along the Austrian and Russian frontiers, again, where Poles and other Slavs from the neighboring provinces are particularly plentiful, purely political reasons prevailed in ordering the expulsions. And the same seems to be true about the expulsions in Alsace-Lorraine during November. Singularly enough, the Prussian government itself has not so far explained the motives underlying these expulsions, utterance as to whether they are to continue or whether they are merely of a temporary nature, or a political coup pure and simple.

It must be admitted that the German press, as a whole, does not approve of all this, and that there are many papers of note which condemn the policy as vicious, as any paper outside Germany could. Of course, the liberal newspapers do so. Several of them have said outright that it is not worthy of a large and powerful country, which reckons itself with the most advanced in civilization, to indulge in such practices, and the Berlin Tageblatt directed attention to the widespread indignation, not in Germany alone, which was aroused by the expulsion of the Germans residing in Poland at the outbreak of the Franco-German war, and asked: "Yet those were times of war, and such people expelled were part of the enemy."

A week hence the reichstag assemblies meet. There is good reason to suppose that the initial session of this body, elected for a period of five years, will be a stormy one, as the military bill, which also provides for a new army increase, the various measures framed in the interest of the Agrarians, and several other bills of less moment will confront a bitter fight in the reichstag. During the absence of the emperor in the orient many things have tended to breed a sense of dissatisfaction with the present political conditions in Germany, for which the word "Reichsverfall" (decay) has just been coined. Above all the more and more pronounced predominance of Prussian influence in the councils of the nation has occasioned a sentiment of deep disgust in south and central Germany, and the fact in Bavaria and Württemberg, especially, is such that it is not too much to say that the empire and the emperor are thoroughly unpopular there. There was a time when Prussia was ahead, politically, of the south German states. This was thirty years ago. Now it is the other way, and it is not only the Prussian arrogance which is detested by the more easily-going men of the southwest, but still more the Prussian reactionism, which is infused into its dealings with the non-Prussian states. It is a great pity that Germany has no actual chancellor-for-deputy Prince Bismarck, while well-meaning and exerting a wholesome and restraining influence upon the emperor, so far as that influence goes, is lacking in energy and in initiative—and no actual cabinet, while the emperor himself, with all due regard for his undoubted gifts and good intentions, is as yet not amenable to the sound advice of more experienced and more impartial men. As the leading German satirical paper, the Kladderadatsch, said a few days ago in a raucous poem, four months after the death of the man who created the empire, it looks as if his creation needed but a powerful shock from the outside to shatter it to pieces.

Under the title of "Die Soziale Lage der Arbeiter in Berlin," Dr. E.

Hirschberg of the Statistical bureau of Berlin has just published a book which gives a most comprehensive picture of the social conditions of the laboring classes in this city, and one, besides, which takes its data from unimpeachable sources. The picture thus presented is far from inviting—nay, it is appalling. The stranger making his first visit to Berlin would never suspect from the fair and apparently smooth outside of the city the enormous amount of misery underneath. Berlin is different from London, New York, even Paris, in that its misery is not visible to the naked eye, but that it is hidden more or less carefully. Driving through Berlin, even through the quarters inhabited by the socialist laboring classes—for nearly every workman here is also a socialist—the eye meets a row of houses presenting a far from clean and sweet streets, often lined with rows of trees. But the awful misery, the callous immorality, and brutish materialism of the thousands and thousands of dwelling in the rear buildings are unseen. The rigorous enforcement of street decency invades the forerunner on a short visit here into the belief that Berlin is singularly devoid of that moral filth and of that crying poverty which seems to be common to the other capital cities of the world. To such people the reading of this book would be a revelation. I will content myself with merely citing some of its unimpeachable facts and quoting some of its figures.

According to the census of 1885 the total population of Berlin was 1,615,577, 779,129 males and 845,378 females. Of these totals, 60 per cent (969,239) of the male and 61 per cent (516,258) of the female population belong to the laboring classes. Of the females 6,000 are domestic servants. The total number of these earn an average of 120 marks (about 24 cents) per annum, the men 240 marks (48 cents) per annum. This, with most at 20 cents for the poorer qualities and 30 cents for the finer, with rents at 350-450 marks per annum for two-room flats in the poorer quarters of the city, generally in the rear buildings and four or five stairs up, shows to what misery this vast army of human toilers is condemned; even when they are unmolested their earnings are barely sufficient to provide for their coarsest needs. But Dr. Hirschberg shows that very few of these laboring beings remain unmolested (married one can not say, for the reason that the vast majority of them never marry) after reaching the age of 22 for the men and 17 for the women. The conditions thus created lead to what are here technically known as "Arbeiter-Ehen," or laborers' marriages, which are less more or less brittle, and severed at the first turn of fortune for good or ill, both for the men and for the women.

Illegitimate births, it may be presumed, are, therefore, of alarming frequency. One-third of them are among the servant girls. But as far as purely material conditions are concerned, the many thousands of couples living in such "Arbeiter-Ehen" presents an even sadder spectacle. Herded together in the higher regions of those immense tenements in the laboring quarters of the city (one of which, for instance, harbors a human mass of about 600), sanitary conditions, morals, almost everything which goes to make life a decent and enjoyable thing, are necessarily outraged. Add to this the fact that loss of work, sickness, childbirth, and other occurrences to disturb the financial conditions of this immense army of coarse toilers, and the child labor must be added to enable the temporary family to make both ends meet, and it will be easily surmised that the total social picture thus presented is appalling. Last year, for instance, Dr. Hirschberg says, some 800 deserted "wives" with children of tender age sought public relief, and the 1887 census brought out the fact that 12,000 of the married female laborers in Berlin had been deserted by their husbands, and that 12,000 children of school age had to earn their living after school. No wonder that the organized public or semi-public charity of Berlin is of a more comprehensive kind than that in any other large city.

One peculiar feature of Berlin life in the laboring classes to which the author calls particular attention is the "Schlafbuschensystem." The one or two-room flats of these laboring couples harbor at night, for a slight weekly consideration, one or more unemployed laborers, and the number of these latter is estimated by Dr. Hirschberg at above 120,000. In 1897 there were 36,365 such "Schlafbuschens" alone, besides the girls and women who found similar night quarters, and 30 per cent of this number slept in the same room with their hosts.

Last Easter the great commercial high school of Germany was started in Leipzig, and from the report just published I see that this institution is evidently flourishing. There are already 119 students mentioned there, of whom 112 are Germans and 7 foreigners, besides about 40 who attend the school on a part-time basis, and the school is intended to broaden and extend the plan of studies as the attendance grows.

Of the seventy-two students who have joined this fall, thirty-five are already engaged in commercial pursuits. The larger number of the foreign students at this new institution are English.

The Bismarck memorials just published provoke much criticism in Germany, especially as to the manner in which the late ex-chancellor deals with his co-workers in the unification of Germany, and even the most enthusiastic admirers of the man who did not entirely approve the way in which the old emperor is spoken of, viz., as a continual drag and hindrance in Bismarck's life work. The Cologne Volkszeitung, for instance, says: "The question is only whether Bismarck tells the truth. Admittedly, he avoids all direct criticism of the king, but leaves it to the reader to form his own judgment. But since he describes his own opinions always as so perfectly unreasonable, no conclusion but one is possible, when one admits the correctness of what Bismarck claims. It is very painful for every patriotic German that the discussion of these controversial questions has been started in this way. But since it has been done, public opinion and posterity have the right to demand the truth. The archives must be opened, in order to fix the real facts, and, meanwhile, historical criticism will be in the dark."

The project of erecting, in Godesberg, near Bonn, a Bismarckshaus, in the nature of the one at Bayreuth, principally for the performance of the operas of August Wagner—those "Odenses" and other pretentious music dramas are still comparatively little known outside of Germany—but also for the adequate rendering of the works of other composers, is now slowly taking tangible shape. The site has already been purchased and paid for, and the construction of the building itself will be begun early next spring.

W. V. S.

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## THAT HAVANA RIOT

Bad Condition of Affairs Now Prevails in That City.

### PEOPLE STILL STARVING

Necessity of the United States Sending Aid at Once.

Havana, Dec. 12.—In the conflicts last night between the Spanish and Cubans there was more ruthlessness than hitherto because the departing forces had been ordered to take no "back talk" from insurgents. By order of a lieutenant-colonel, whose arm was in a sling, those shots were fired which killed two Cubans and from which one other is at this moment dying. It all began in the Tacón Cafe, where, from the most trustworthy accounts, it appears that a Spanish officer said something offensive to a Cuban officer. Cubans assert that the Cubans began it, but one may have misgivings about that. The Spanish, however, fired the first shot. The Cuban having struck the Spanish with a walkingstick. He fired at the floor, and it did nothing except alarm the neighborhood. Thence the quarrel crossed the street to the Inglaterra, where Cubans rendezvous. All the officers in the Tacón crossed with it, belligerently, and drove the Cubans from the Inglaterra cafe to the Inglaterra diningroom, where a second and mortal shot passed through a Cuban and made a clean round hole in the mirror beyond. At this the Cubans, young men mostly, some of them officers in the insurrection, crowded up stairs. When Spanish soldiers entered almost immediately a detail followed up to the floor above. The Cubans had fled to the roof, but on the third floor, was late, and he was shot in the hip by a Spanish private.

He fell without a sign, then arose and went to lie upon a settee, saying to one of General Greene's staff, who came into the corridor at the sound of firing that he was hit and would like a doctor. A surgeon from a recently arrived transport happened to be within call, and he bound up the wound. Meantime there was th customary wild riot and consternation in neighboring cafes, and oaths had to be closed. Spanish officers came from all directions, afoot and on coaches. Where was the commanding American officer? They wanted to know. He was in his room, where he awaited whoever would speak with the Teniente-Colonel? He was in his room, the answer followed, awaiting whoever had business with him. No officer took it upon himself to call on General Greene until an aide arrived from the captain-general. He went directly up stairs, met General Greene in the second floor corridor, and presented the captain-general's compliments and asked for information. There was little information to give, except that there was a disturbance, and General Greene was curious to know if measures had been taken to preserve order in the city. Measures had been taken, the aide assured him, and order would be maintained. "Perfectly," he said, with the salute General Greene returned to the palace in a cab.

Between the time of the shooting and the arrival of the captain-general's aide, the Spanish soldiers had been retired to a street two blocks away. Not a Cuban was to be seen when they started. Only Americans and Spanish soldiers. Except for these the pavements were deserted. Three soldiers at three different times came and patted me on the shoulder to show their amity towards Americans. Still, some Americans, as well as Cubans, ran away; and five of them, officers, and to say, in the confusion of the United States suddenly disappeared into the hotel porter's closet. One could excuse them only by saying that they were "quartermaster volunteers," for there was nothing to be afraid of. They came out again when it was quiet; and as the first troops left the streets, the vanished Cubans also once more poured into view, magically, in swarms, and went to the hotel to carry away their wounded and dying. They scowled, while almost weeping; and it was pathetic, in the pulsing silence, to see them bearing out their comrades, one of the young creole aristocrats of the town, a look upon his face that those who had seen his life before meant the end of life. They carried him on a hotel cot to his home, where, this morning, he is dead, and another besides.

Promptly in answer to General Greene's inquiry as to whether the captain-general intended to maintain order, a battalion of regulars and an increased civil guard arrived in the Parque Central. There were two fusillades, short and sharp, all the groups of chattering citizens scattered on the run, and the hundred or more cab standing about the park suddenly darted in as many directions, rumbling loud, their lights flashing like frightened eyes. This was a spectacle one would not have missed—but why is it the most exciting thing one sees in Havana are desperate and retreats? "In a French city," remarked an American railroad builder, "there would have been a popular uprising after those shots." But here, no noise is disagreeable to a Cuban, and so long as the soldiers fired now and then, whether in the air or not, it was sufficient to keep the peace. Individual soldiers seemed to fire when they pleased; on a of their shots struck down a Cuban standing in our group on the corner. He made no cry—just fell with a hole in his breast. It was mere luck that no American was wounded; and that calls attention to the probability that if these conditions are permitted to go on some American will suffer from a stray bullet, and then the amity professed by the Spanish soldiers will receive a jolt.

Havana is made to endure much during this interregnum between peace and evacuation. Why, for example, does the United States, in hesitating to send a ship to pick up and trouble a city? Surely it is possible now for a government ship to enter here and put ashore food for the hungry and helpless whom war has brought to our charge. Government ships are looked upon with different consideration from Red Cross ships, and I am assured that there would be no opposition or difficulty. With the aid, of provisions great quantities have been supplied at Marianas, Matanzas, Sagua, Caibarien, and other towns, through the exaltado and neutral management of Mr. Gould, of his United States relations to the Intervention Commission. In addition, fourteen towns by and back from the north coast he has formed native committees and instructed them in the way to distribute the supplies and to see that the people at work again. These native com-

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Christmas Matinee and Night,

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25.

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Matinee—Children, 25c, to all parts of the house; adults, balcony, 25c; first floor, 50c and 75c.

Seats on sale at Howe's jewelry store Friday.

matinees have organized sub-committees in outlying villages, and through these channels aid has been spread effectively. Mr. Gould's proposition to the planter is simply this: "If you will employ these poor people and lend them tools the United States will feed them until the time when their crops are ready for harvest." Ordinarily, the planters have to supply supports as well as tools, and so will have the offer to relieve them of that necessity succeeded that "on the day we left Sagua," reports Mr. Gould, "we saw oxen already at the ploughs."

Today or tomorrow the Cornal is expected with more provisions, which Mr. Gould will use in the region about Cienfuegos. It is only the second relief ship, and the war has been over since August. Everybody knew that there was distress in Havana before it began, and the blockade brought poverty and misery to uncounted numbers more. Can nothing be done for these? Mrs. Sampson and Mrs. March are doing what their facilities permit, but what is feeding 100 or 200 persons a day when from various well-informed sources it is learned that there are here 25,000 and 30,000 in absolute want. "Half the population is in great poverty," declares an American Cuban, who helped to relieve it last spring. "On the day the news of peace was received the poor began flocking to my house. In two days all these registered with me," she added, showing a book of names and addresses. "Over seven hundred. Take the book and go and see if they are not in need." We took her book and we went to see if they were in need. Some of them were not—they were in the cemetery. Others, unable to pay rent, had had to move to other addresses. Those who had been able to stay in the houses where they were were in need. It will require a separate letter to go into details, but I must add here that the untold thing about their condition is that they are not only hungry but diseased, and not only diseased, but incapable of any movement like doing work. They cannot stand on no milk in their wasted breasts sit all day on stone-flagging in unimaginable quarters, with cows, horses, and goats, and among evil smells, unable to lift a finger to help themselves. F. C.

### Buffalo Meat.

Buffalo meat on sale at Favorite Meat Market, 111 North Main street. Mr. Kennedy has secured all of the buffalo meat and anyone who wants to have a piece of the last of the race of the American Bison can do so if they act promptly. Call on telephone 254. 420-24.

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Over the great Rock Island route are low and tickets will be sold December 24, 25, 26 and 31, 1898, and January 1 and 2, 1899. All tickets good to return any day up to and including January 4, 1899. Enquire of agent of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway.

JOHN SEBASTIAN, G. P. A., Chicago.

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For the occasion of the annual meeting Kansas State Teachers' association, the great Rock Island route will sell excursion tickets to Topeka from all points in Kansas at the very low rate of one fare for the round trip. Tickets will be on sale December 25, 26 and 27, return limit December 31, 1898. You should take advantage of this opportunity to make a holiday trip at small cost by buying your tickets via the great Rock Island route, outfit head tickets agents for rates and full information, or address E. W. THOMPSON, A. G. P. A., Topeka, Kas.

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A new lot of the whitest Diamonds ever sent into this country, just in. Select your Diamonds here.

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Seats on sale at Howe's jewelry store Friday.

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